

WOMAN MEETS DEATH BY FIRE

**MRS. OTELLA ANDERSON DIES
WHEN CLOTHING IGNITES;
FUNERAL HELD MONDAY**

Mrs. Otella Anderson, a highly respected lady of Groton and Claremont, met death when her clothing was sprinkled by distillate at the home of her son, Raymond, near Claremont, last Saturday.

Since no one was an eye witness to the distressing fatality, the circumstances that led up to the accident will probably never be known. But it seems that Mrs. Anderson was working about the kitchen range when she tipped over a small can of distillate, reposing on a shelf above the stove. The fluid fell upon the stove and when it came in contact with the hot surface, sprayed on her clothing which became ignited. A hired girl, working at the home, endeavored to smother the slight flames with a cloth, but Mrs. Anderson, evidently fearing she would set fire to the house, ran out in the yard, where the wind fanned the flames into an uncontrollable state. Mrs. Anderson was badly burned

about the back and right side. She was rushed to the Britton hospital, where by a curious co-incident of fate, her son was at the bedside of his wife, but she was so badly burned all efforts to save her life were unavailing.

The deceased was born in Enspara, Sweden, May 16, 1875, and came to this country when a girl of 17. She settled in Illinois, where she met her husband, a blacksmith. They came to South Dakota many years ago and settled at Claremont. Four or five years ago they bought a home in Groton and since made their home here and at Claremont. Mr. Anderson died about a year ago and left a valuable estate to his wife and two sons, Raymond and Lester, both of whom live on a farm near Claremont.

It is understood that Mrs. Anderson was making preparations to visit her old home in Illinois, at the time the fatal accident occurred.

The funeral was held in Groton on Monday from the First English Lutheran church, with Rev. Anderson officiating. The remains repose beside those of her husband in Groton cemetery.